

# Chemistry around AGB stars: a theoretical sensitivity study

---

*Silke Maes*

*In collaboration with:*

*Dr. M. Van de Sande*

*Dr. T. Danilovich*

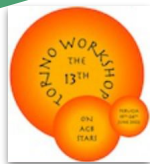
*Prof. L. Decin*



Institute of  
Astronomy



**KU LEUVEN**



*Torino Workshop on AGB stars - 25/06/'22*



# *Introduction*

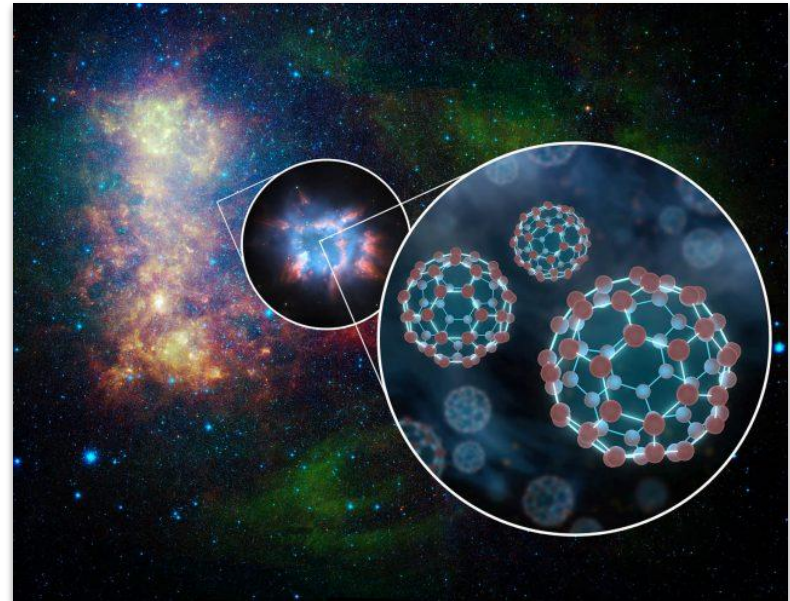
# Astrochemistry

= *Study of chemical species in astrophysical environments*

Depends on:

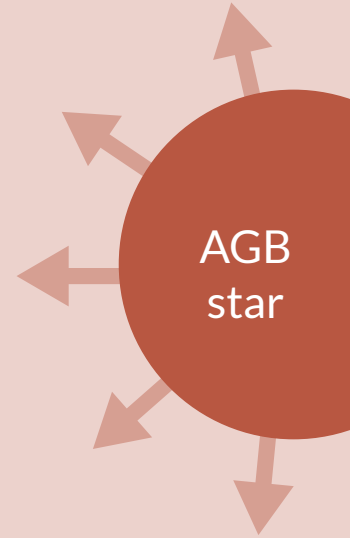
- species present
- radiation (UV & cosmic rays)
- physical conditions

+ feedback on environment



## AGB circumstellar envelope (CSE)

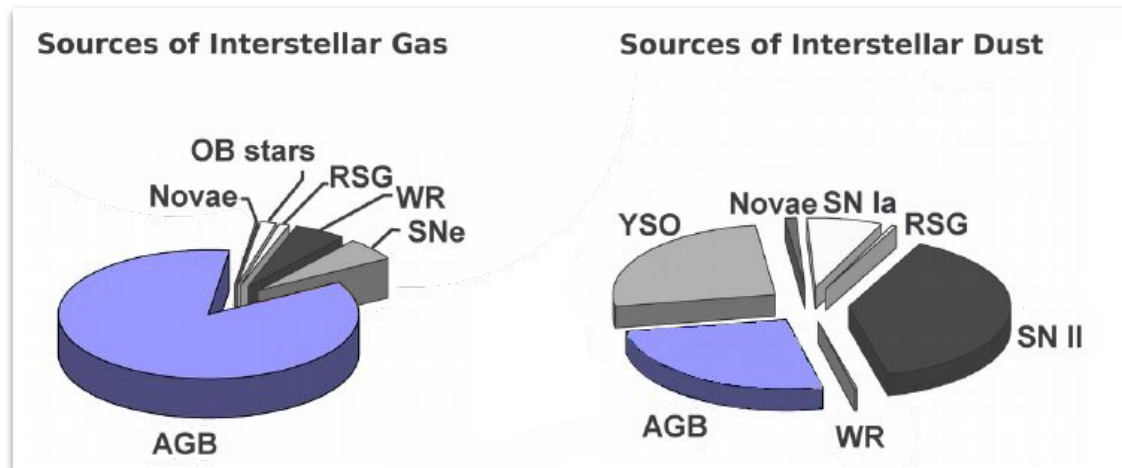
- Mass loss  $\rightarrow$  outflow  $\rightarrow$  large envelope
- Rich chemistry;  
> 100 molecules, 15 dust species



# AGB circumstellar envelope (CSE)

- Mass loss → outflow → large envelope
- Rich chemistry;
  - > 100 molecules, 15 dust species

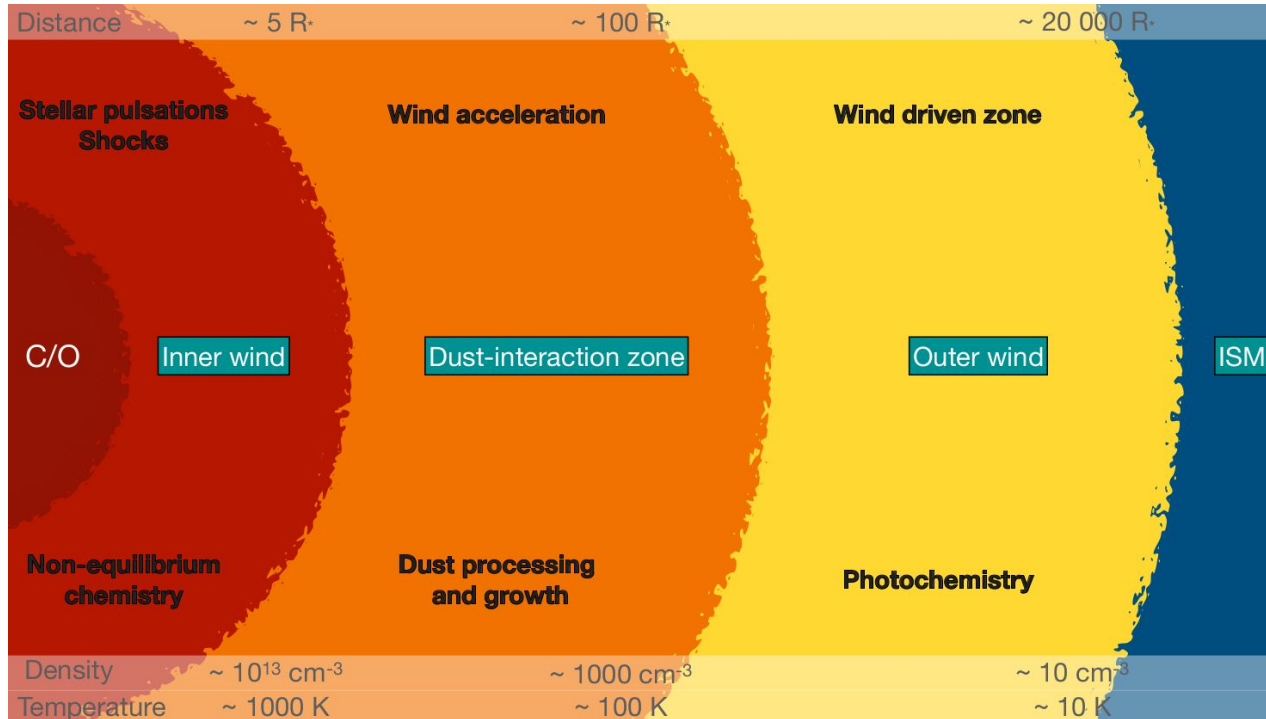
→ Enrichment of the ISM



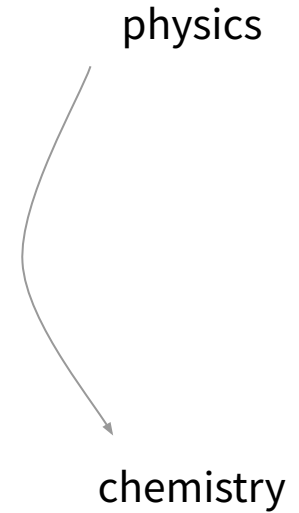
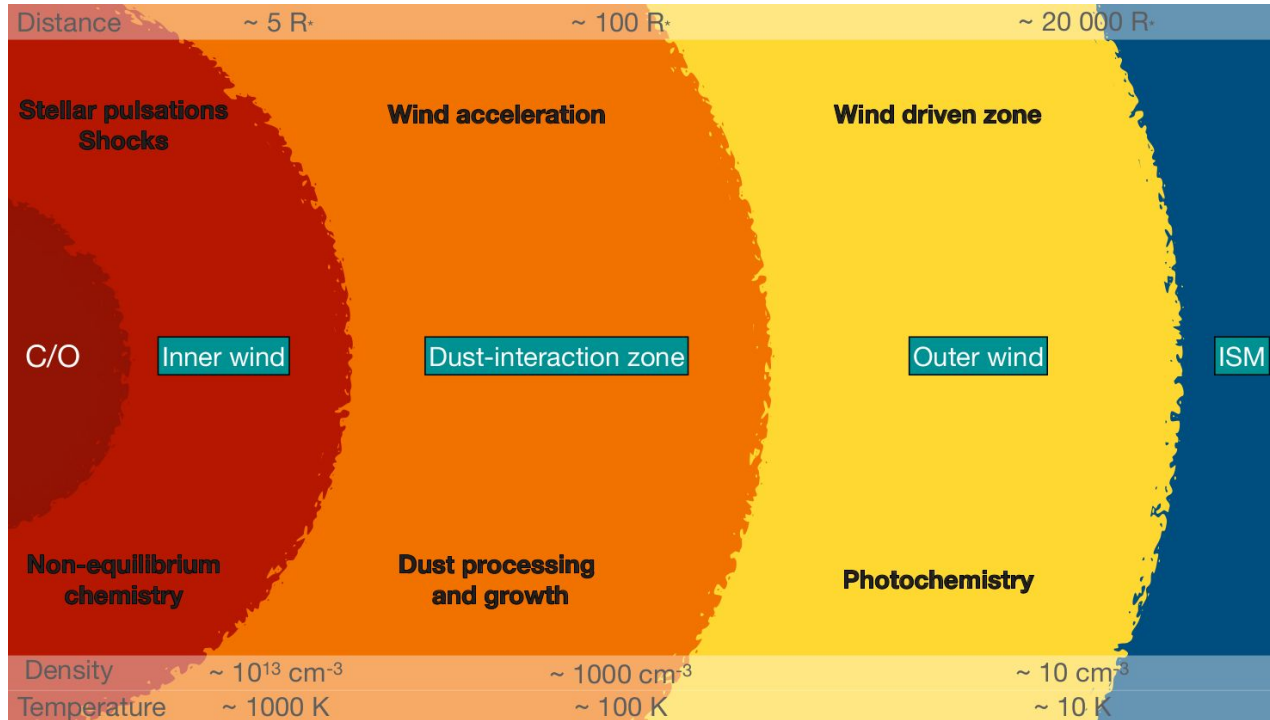


# *Motivation of research*

# AGB outflows

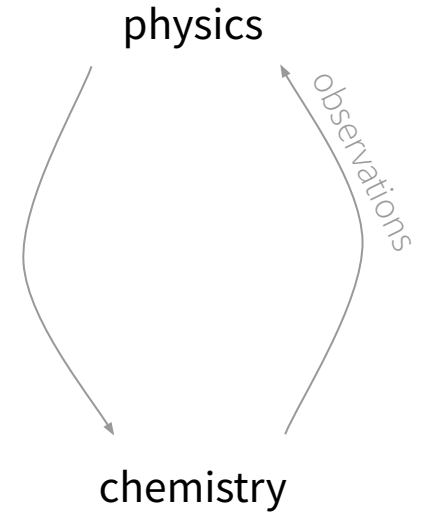
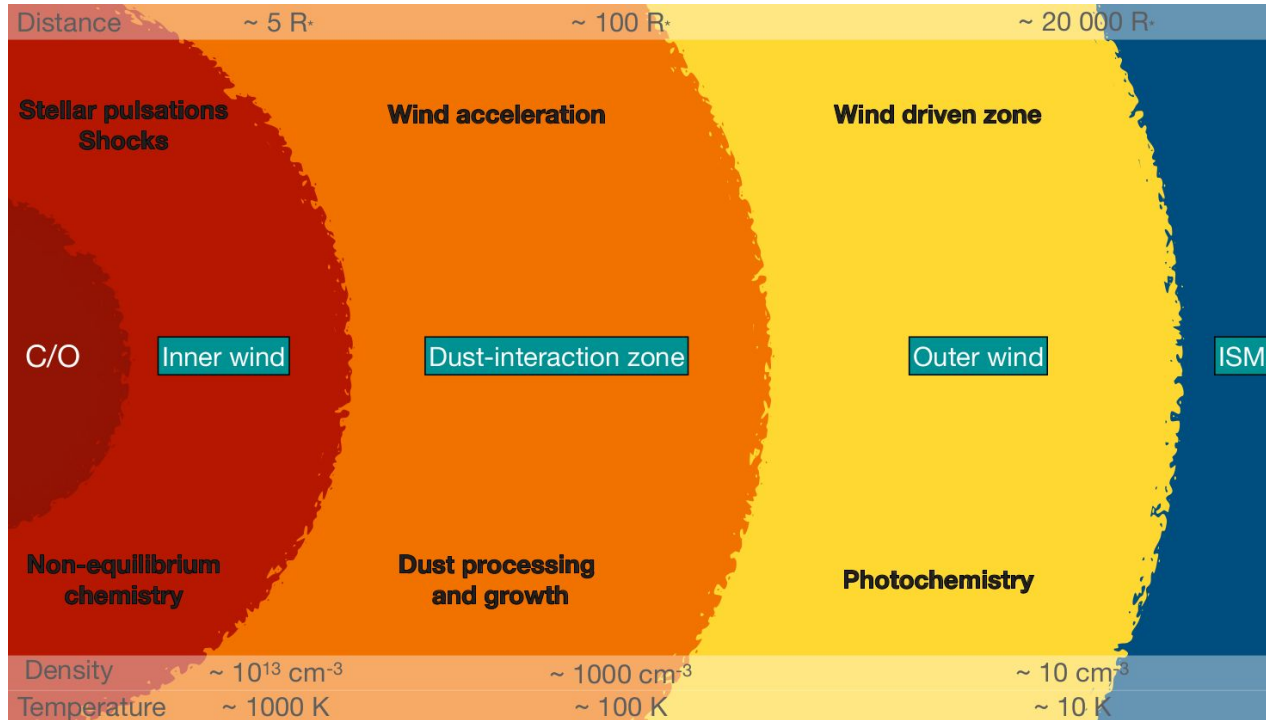


# AGB outflows





# AGB outflows





# *Aim*



# Aim

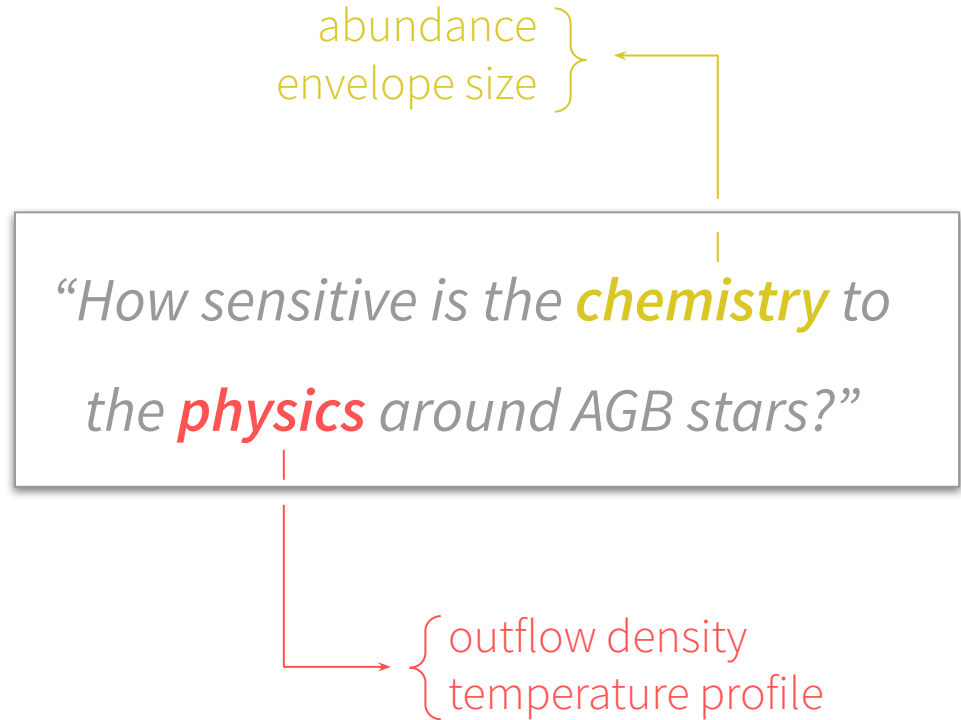
---

*“How sensitive is the **chemistry** to  
the **physics** around AGB stars?”*



# Aim

---

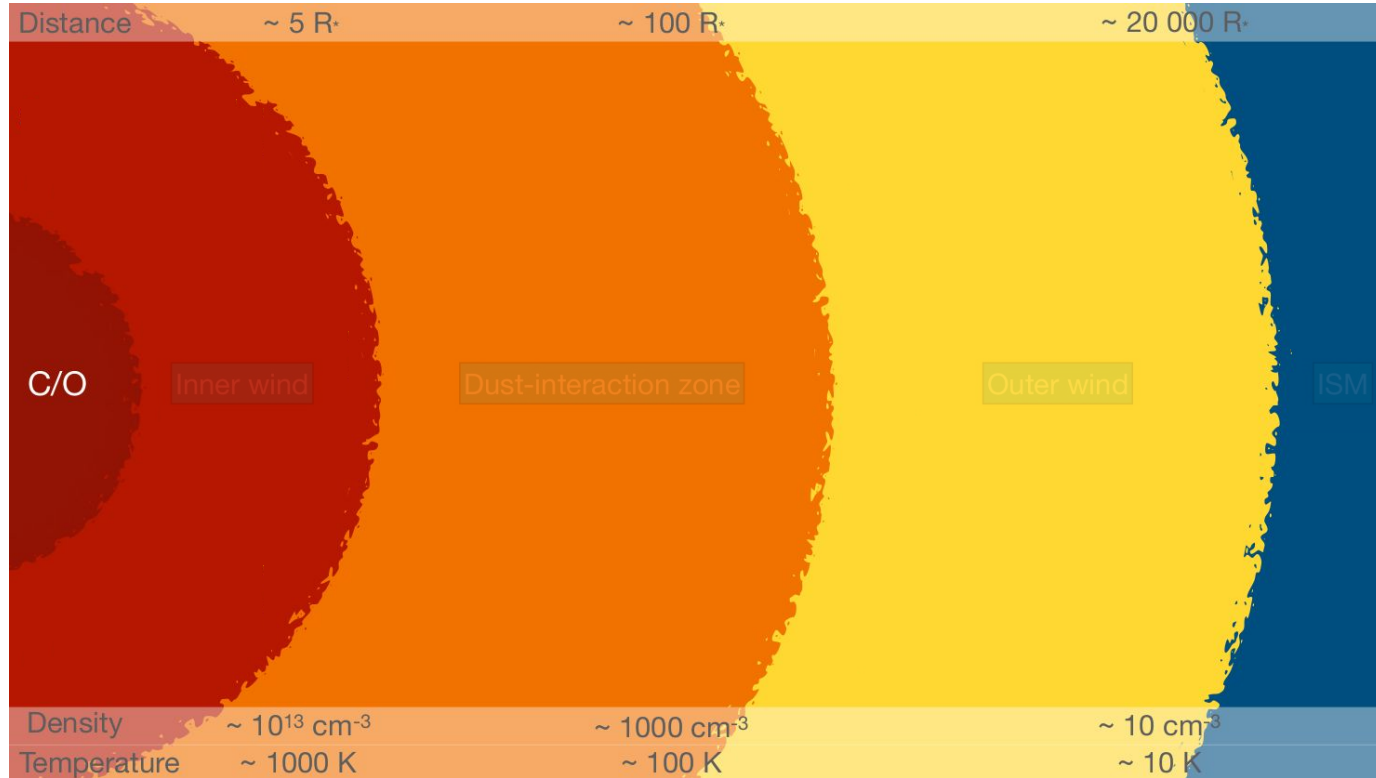




# *Modelling*

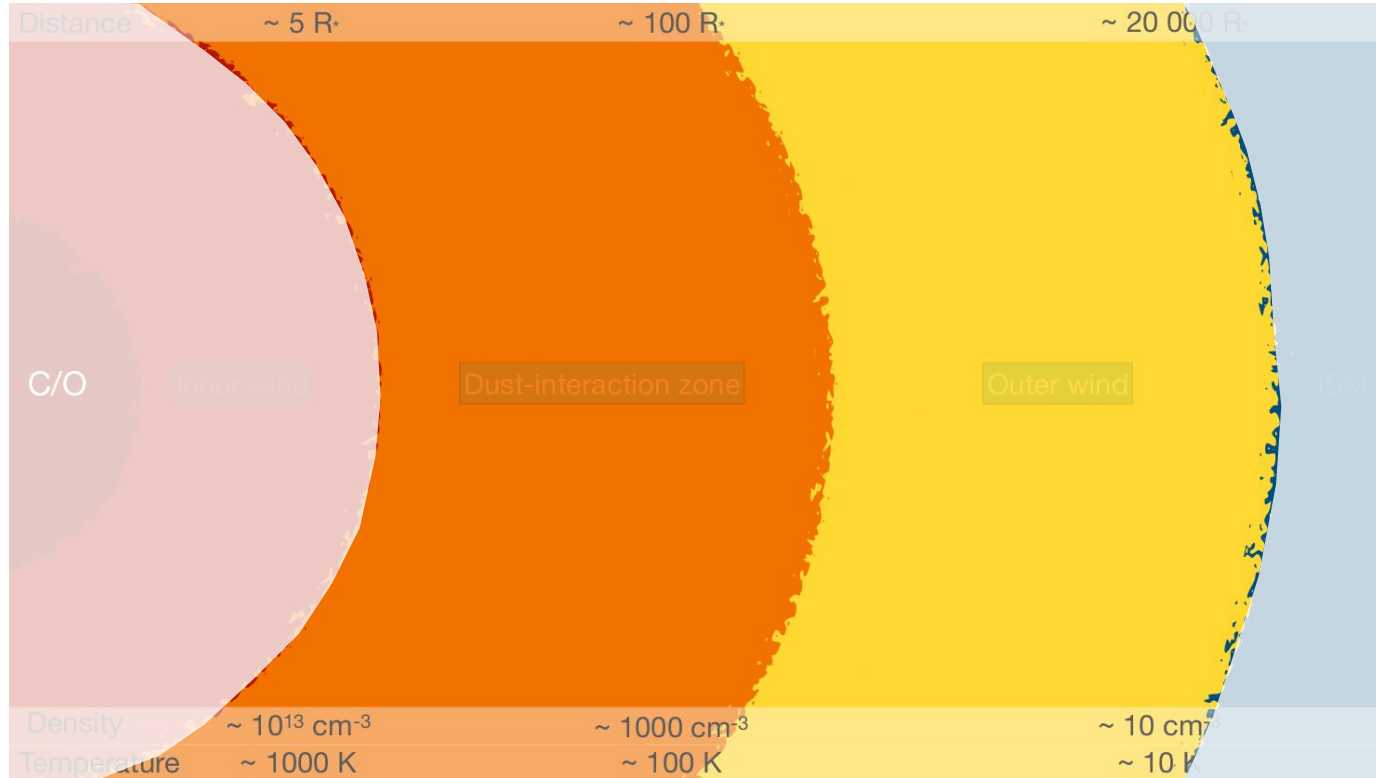
# 1D-CSE model<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> based on *UMIST Database for Astrochemistry*



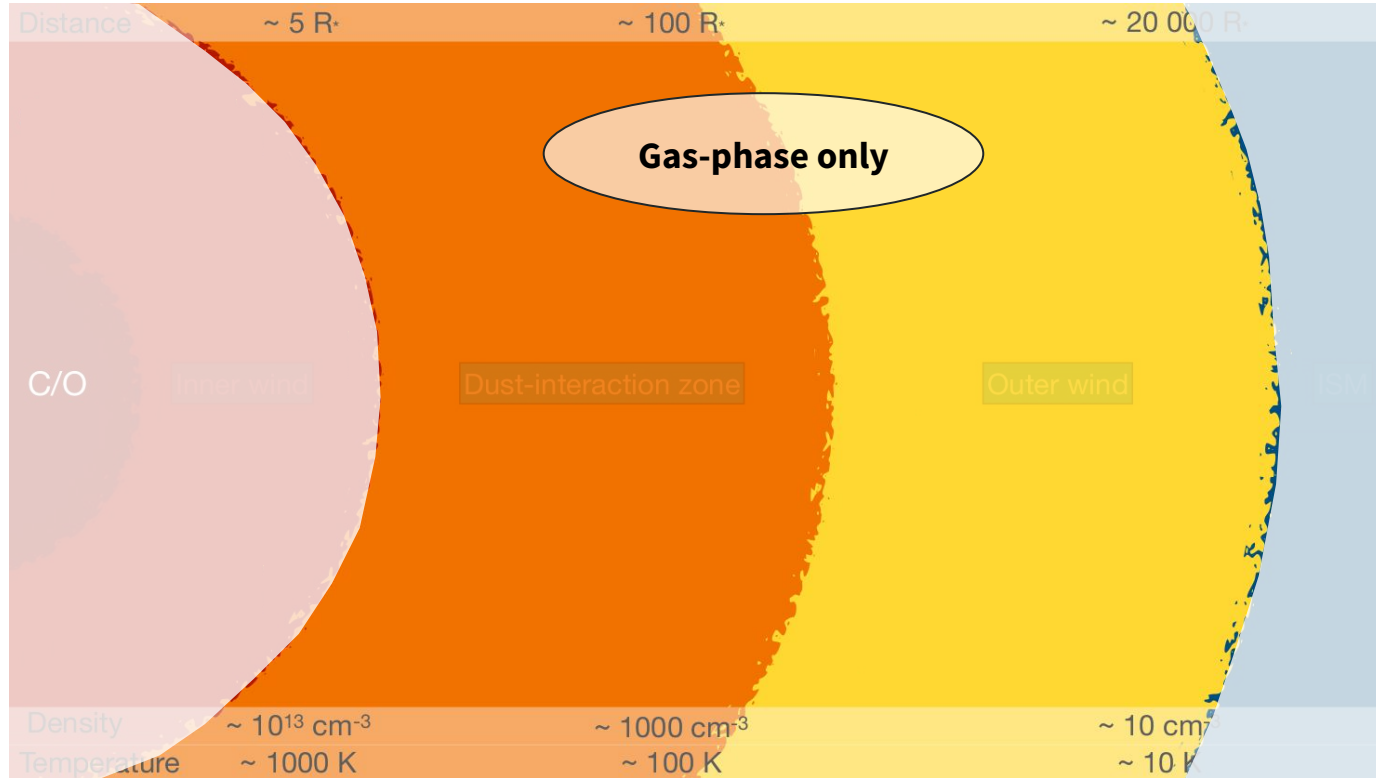
# 1D-CSE model<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> based on *UMIST Database for Astrochemistry*



# 1D-CSE model<sup>1</sup>

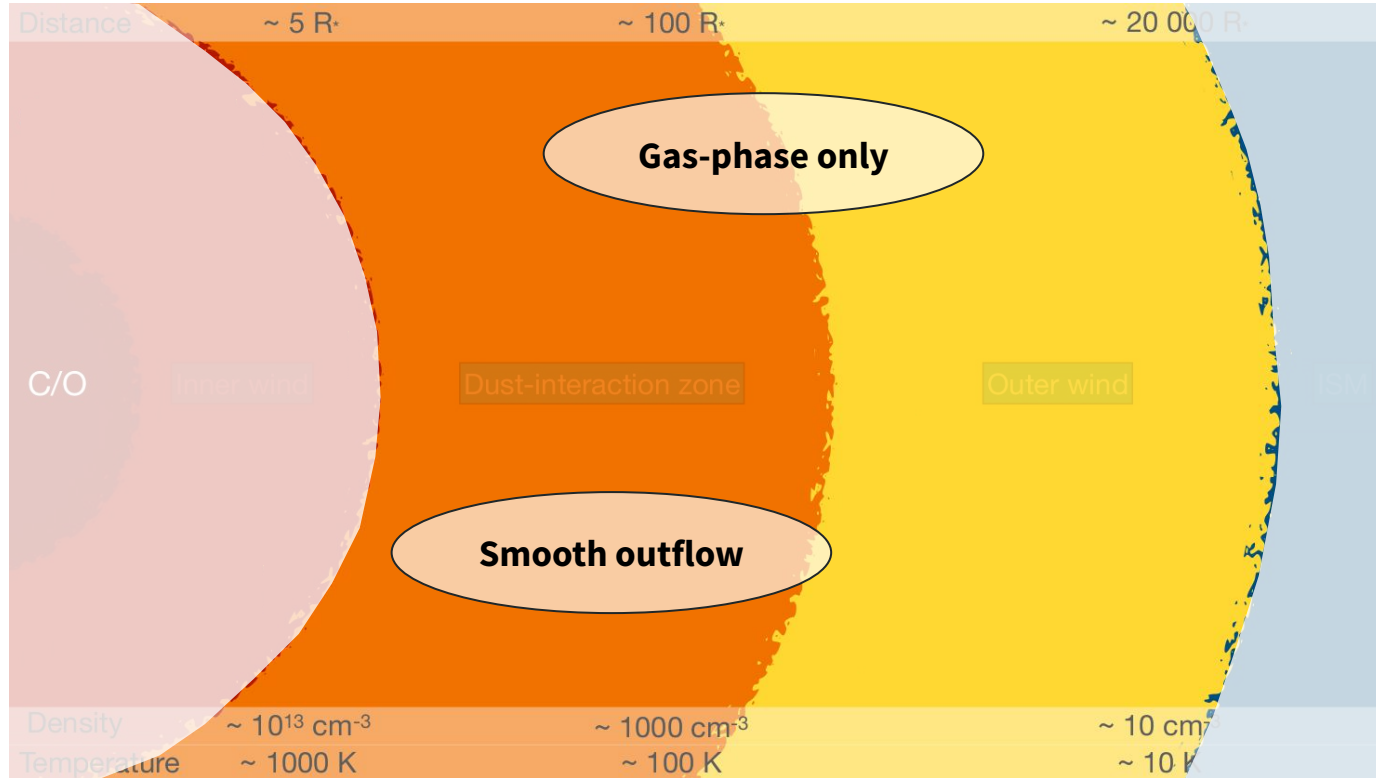
<sup>1</sup> based on *UMIST Database for Astrochemistry*





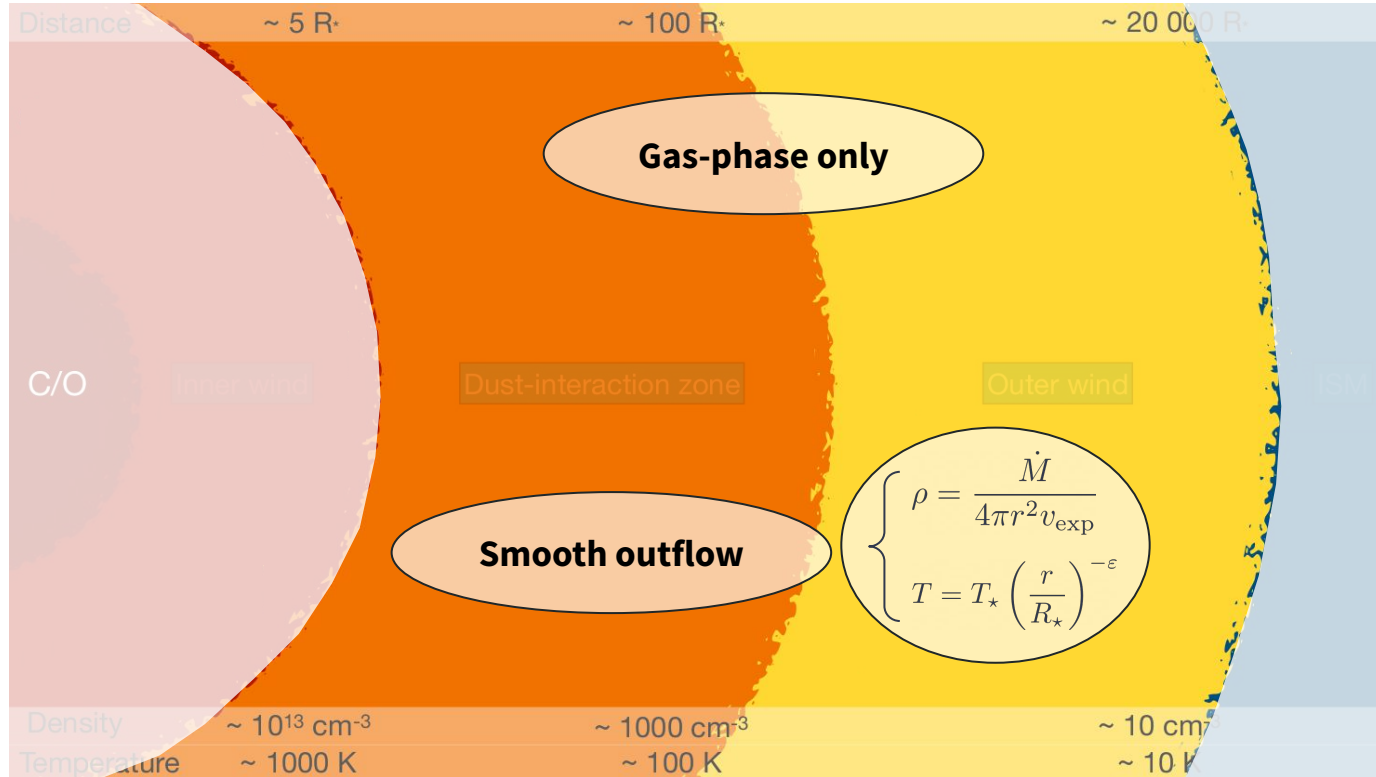
# 1D-CSE model<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> based on *UMIST Database for Astrochemistry*



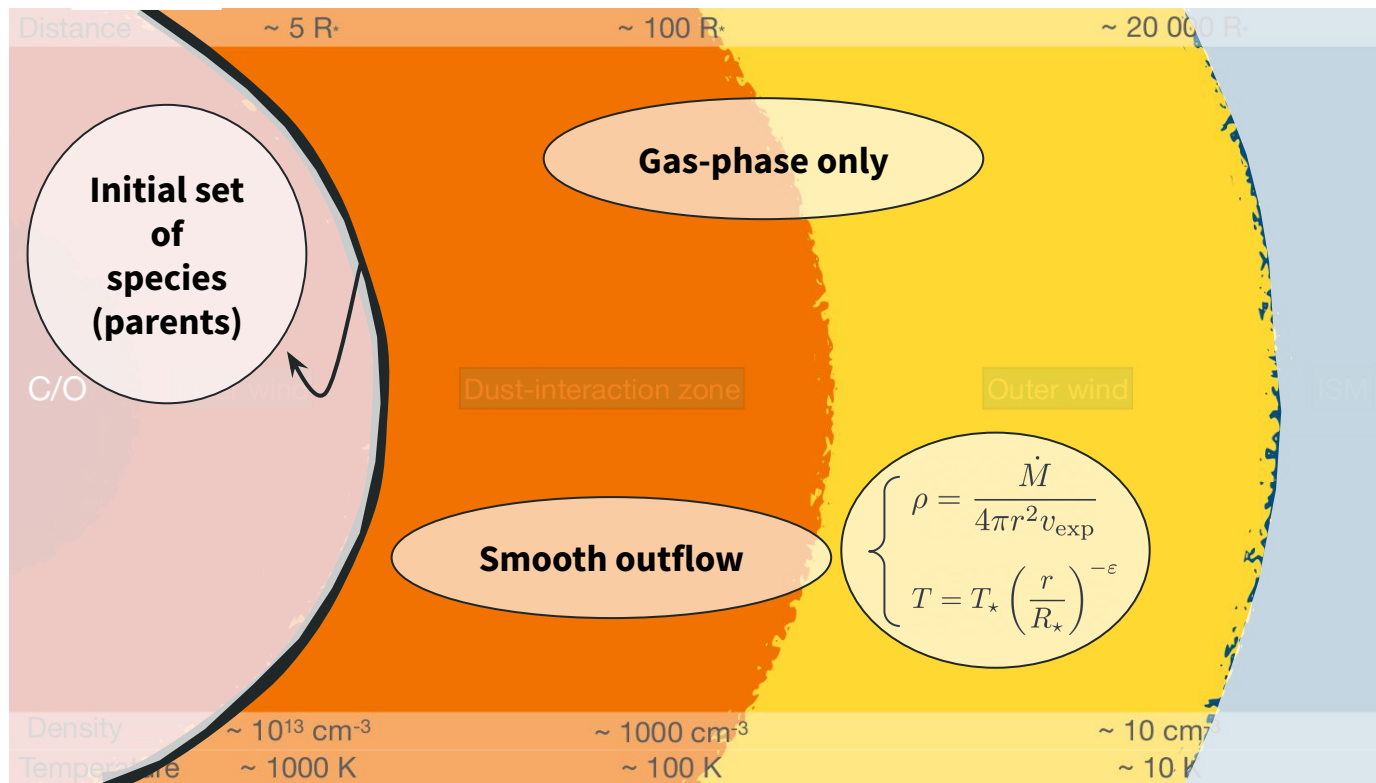
# 1D-CSE model<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> based on *UMIST Database for Astrochemistry*



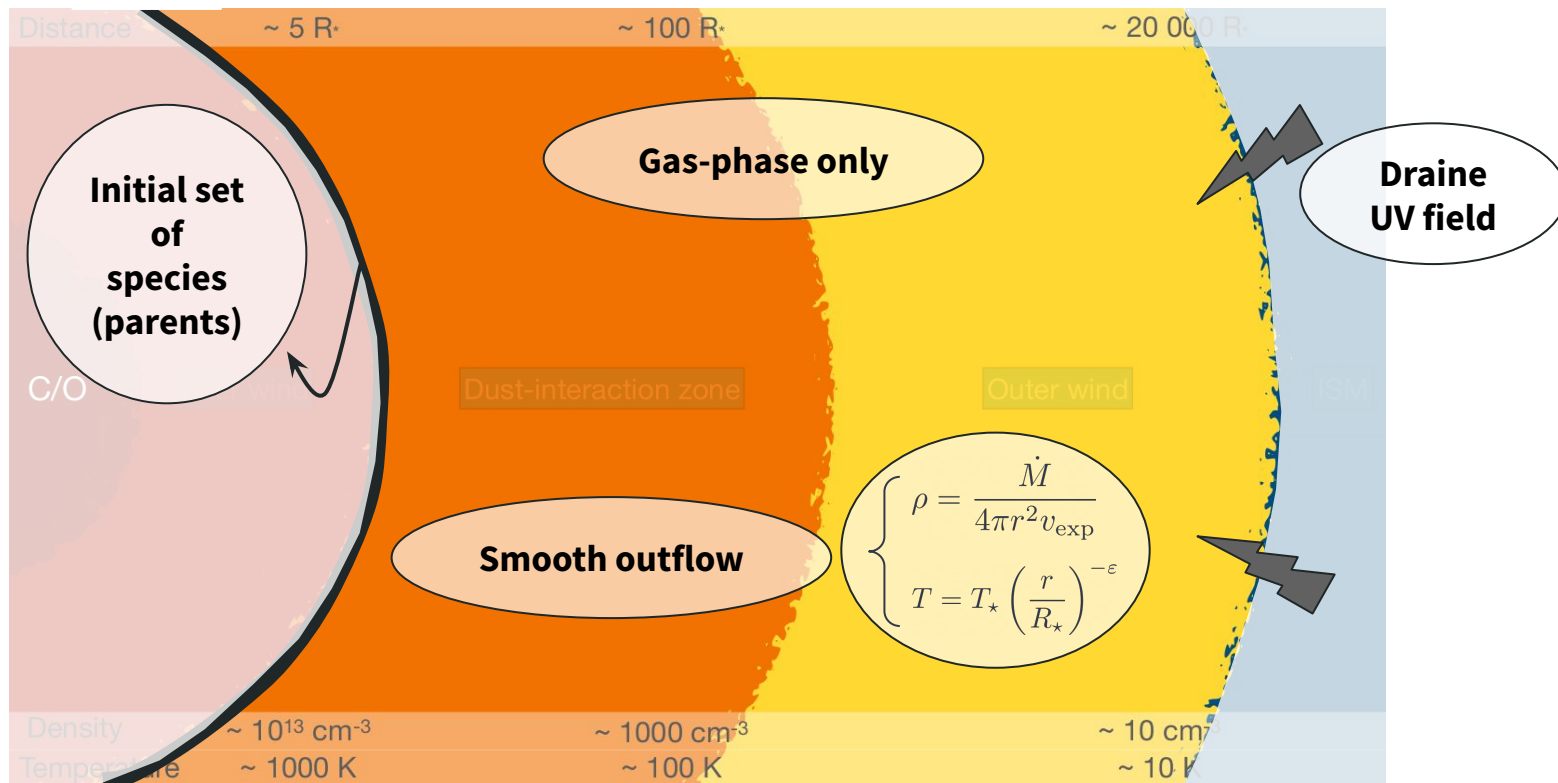
# 1D-CSE model<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> based on *UMIST Database for Astrochemistry*



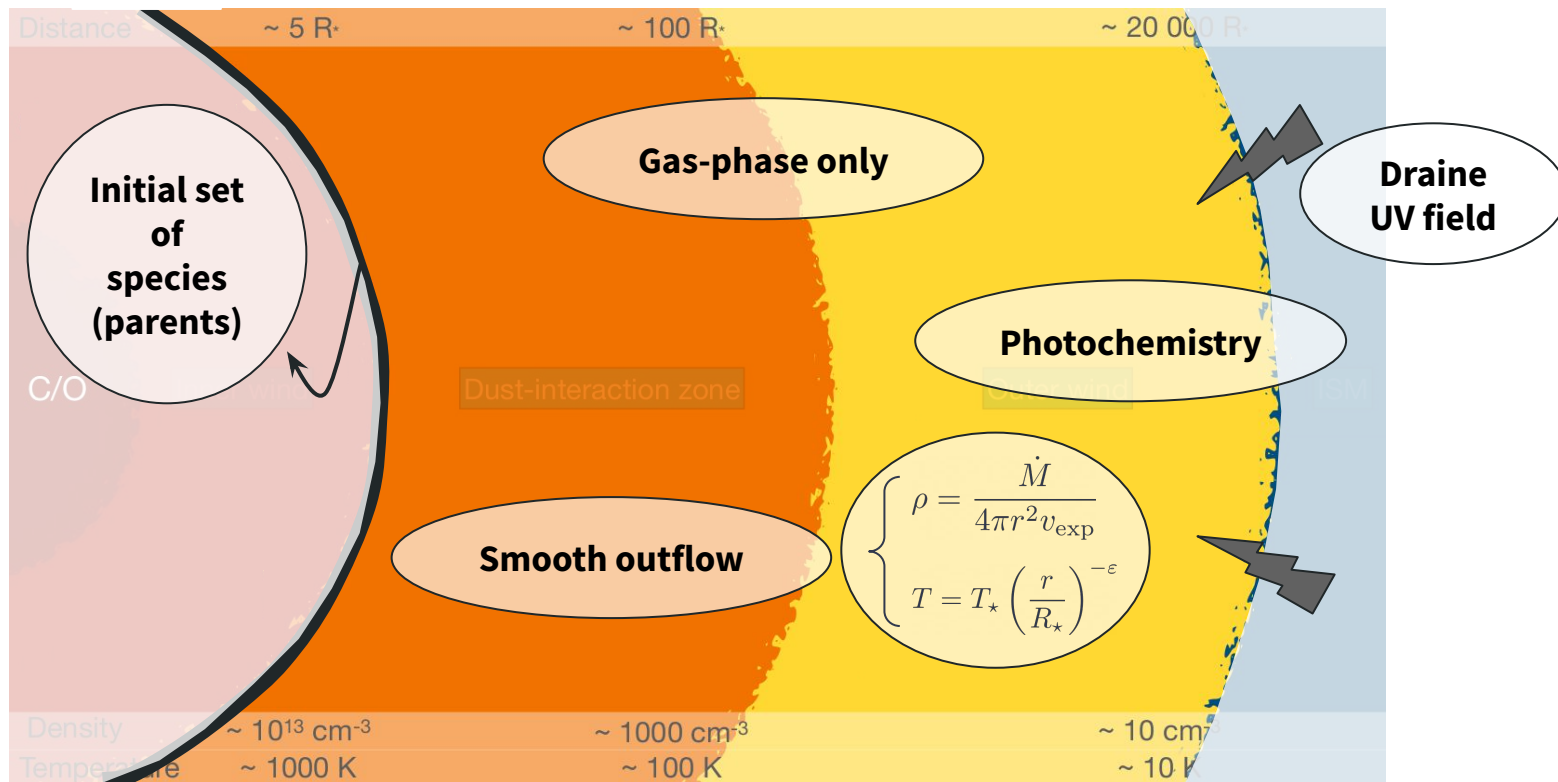
# 1D-CSE model<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> based on *UMIST Database for Astrochemistry*



# 1D-CSE model<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> based on *UMIST Database for Astrochemistry*

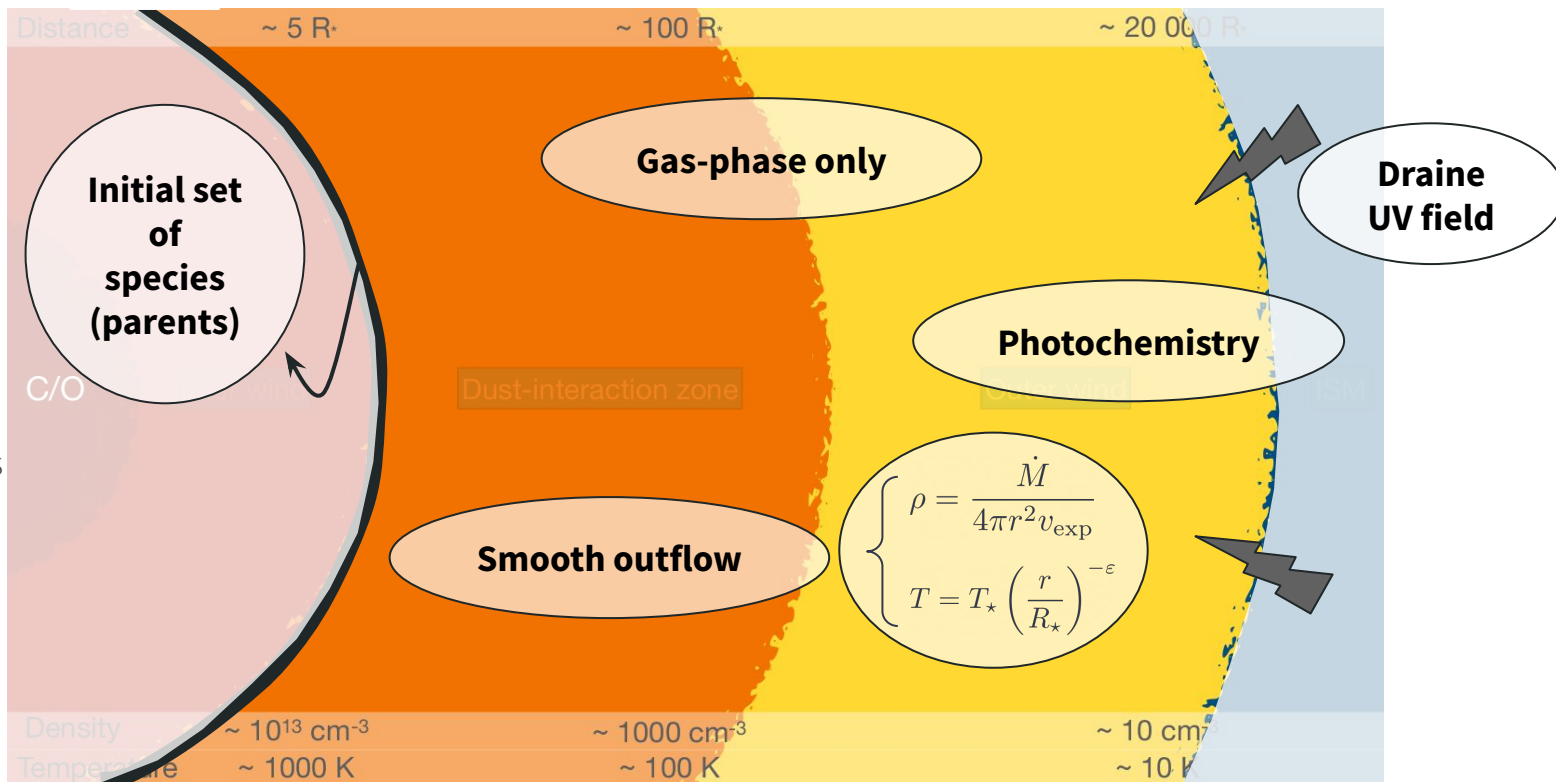


# 1D-CSE model<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> based on *UMIST Database for Astrochemistry*

## Network:

*Rate12*<sup>1</sup>  
(McElroy+ 2013)  
~ 500 species  
> 6000 reactions



# Chemical kinetics

- *Non-equilibrium* thermodynamic & chemical conditions

$$\frac{dn_i}{dt} = \sum_{j \in F_i} \left( k_j \prod_{r \in R_j} n_r \right) - \sum_{j \in D_i} \left( k_j \prod_{r \in R_j} n_r \right)$$

production reactions    destruction reactions

Arrhenius law:  $k = \alpha \left( \frac{T}{300 \text{ K}} \right)^\beta \exp \left( \frac{-\gamma}{T} \right)$  [cm<sup>3</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>]

# Grid

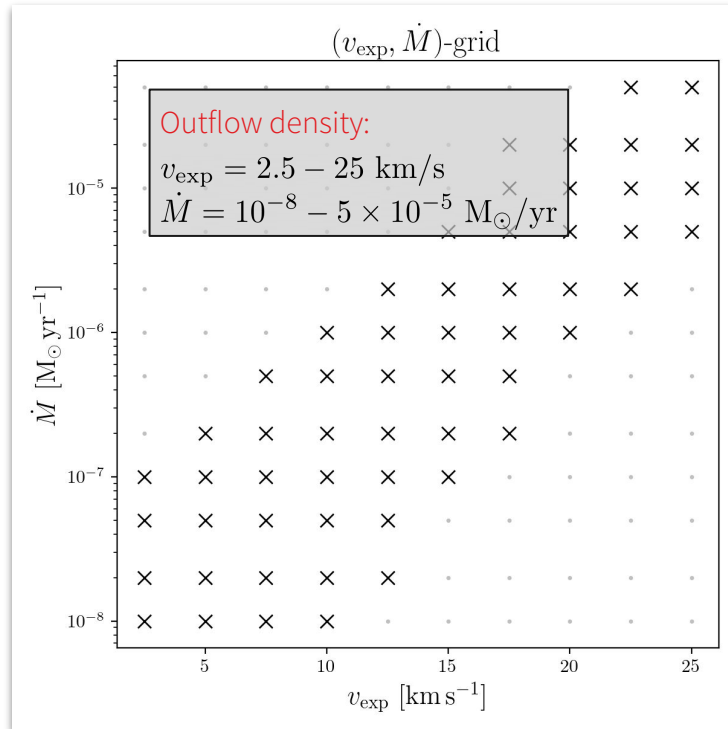
- Input:**

- mass-loss rate
  - expansion velocity
- $$\rho = \frac{\dot{M}}{4\pi r^2 v_{\text{exp}}}$$
- stellar temperature
  - temperature coefficient
- $$T = T_{\star} \left( \frac{r}{R_{\star}} \right)^{-\epsilon}$$
- parent species: C-rich vs. O-rich

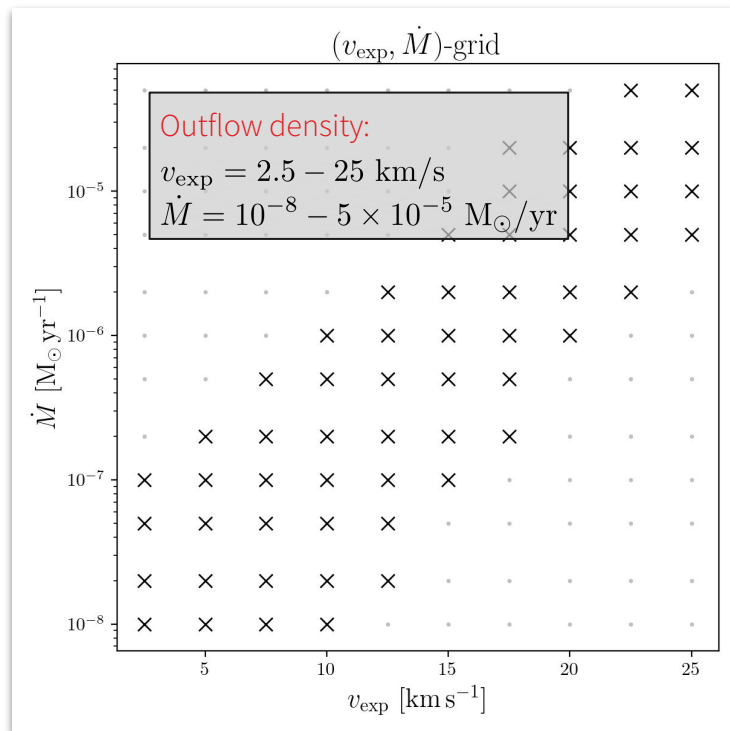
Carbon-rich		Oxygen-rich	
Species	Abundance	Species	Abundance
He	0.17	He	0.17
CO	$8.00 \times 10^{-4}$	CO	$3.00 \times 10^{-4}$
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>2</sub>	$4.38 \times 10^{-5}$	H <sub>2</sub> O	$2.15 \times 10^{-4}$
HCN	$4.09 \times 10^{-5}$	N <sub>2</sub>	$4.00 \times 10^{-5}$
N <sub>2</sub>	$4.00 \times 10^{-5}$	SiO	$2.71 \times 10^{-5}$
SiC <sub>2</sub>	$1.87 \times 10^{-5}$	H <sub>2</sub> S	$1.75 \times 10^{-5}$
CS	$1.06 \times 10^{-5}$	SO <sub>2</sub>	$3.72 \times 10^{-6}$
H <sub>2</sub> S	$4.00 \times 10^{-9}$	SO	$3.06 \times 10^{-6}$
NH <sub>3</sub>	$1.20 \times 10^{-7}$	SiS	$9.53 \times 10^{-7}$
H <sub>2</sub> O	$2.55 \times 10^{-6}$	NH <sub>3</sub>	$6.25 \times 10^{-7}$
SiS	$5.89 \times 10^{-6}$	CO <sub>2</sub>	$3.00 \times 10^{-7}$
SiO	$5.02 \times 10^{-6}$	HCN	$2.59 \times 10^{-7}$
CH <sub>4</sub>	$3.50 \times 10^{-6}$	PO	$7.75 \times 10^{-8}$
HCl	$3.25 \times 10^{-7}$	CS	$5.57 \times 10^{-8}$
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	$6.85 \times 10^{-8}$	PN	$1.50 \times 10^{-8}$
HCP	$2.50 \times 10^{-8}$	Cl	$1.00 \times 10^{-8}$
HF	$1.70 \times 10^{-8}$	F	$1.00 \times 10^{-8}$



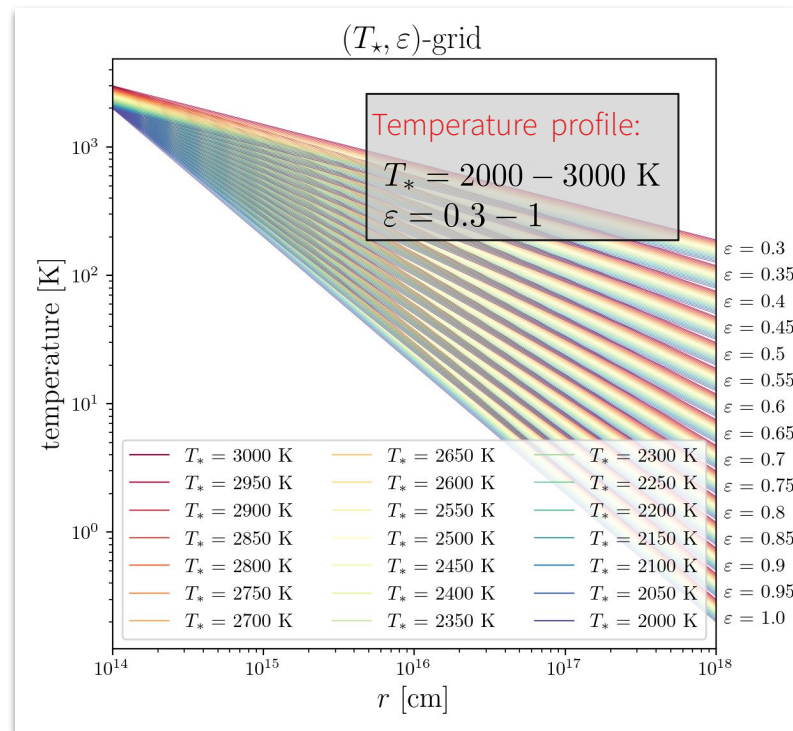
# Grid



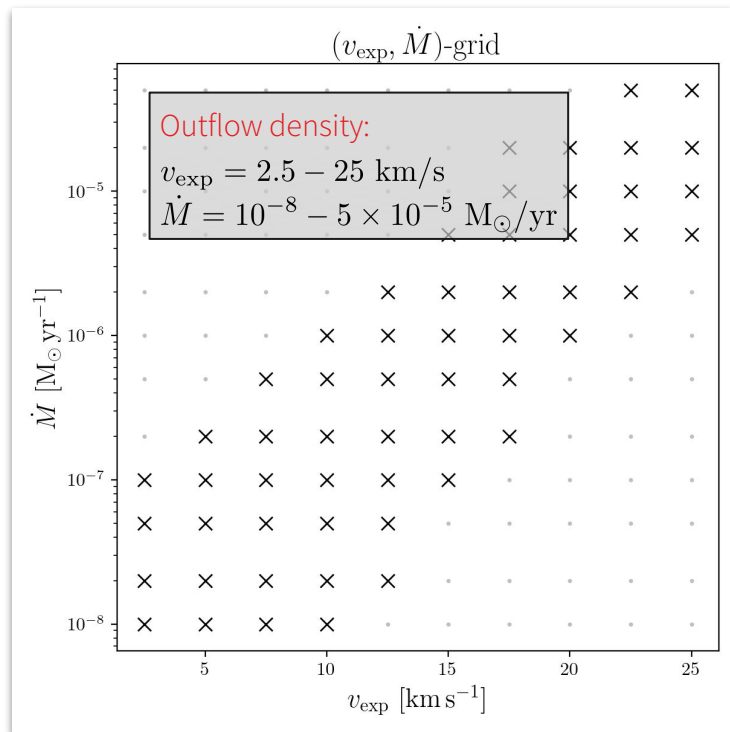
# Grid



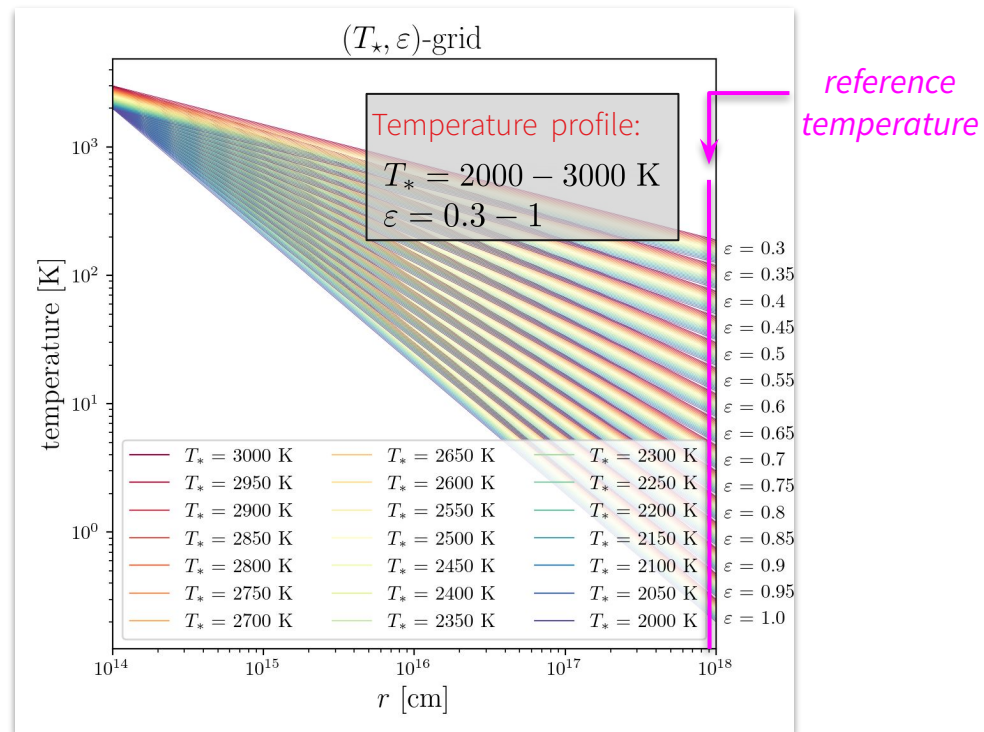
Total number of models: **34 020**



# Grid



Total number of models: **34 020**

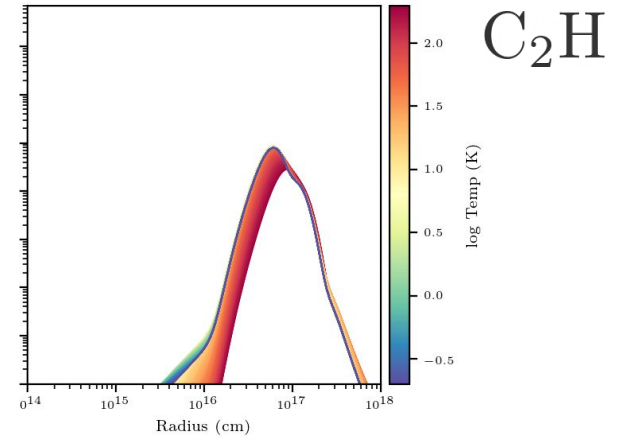
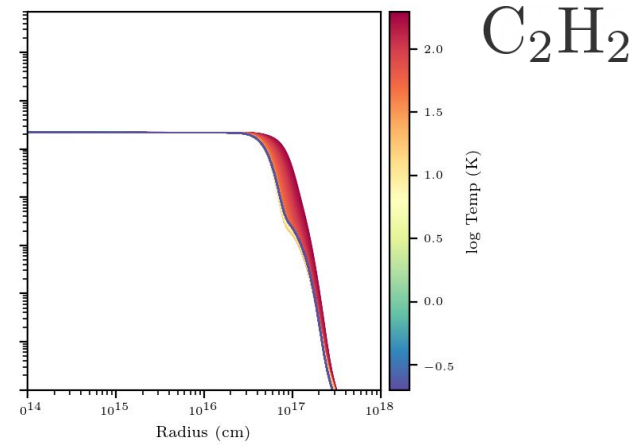




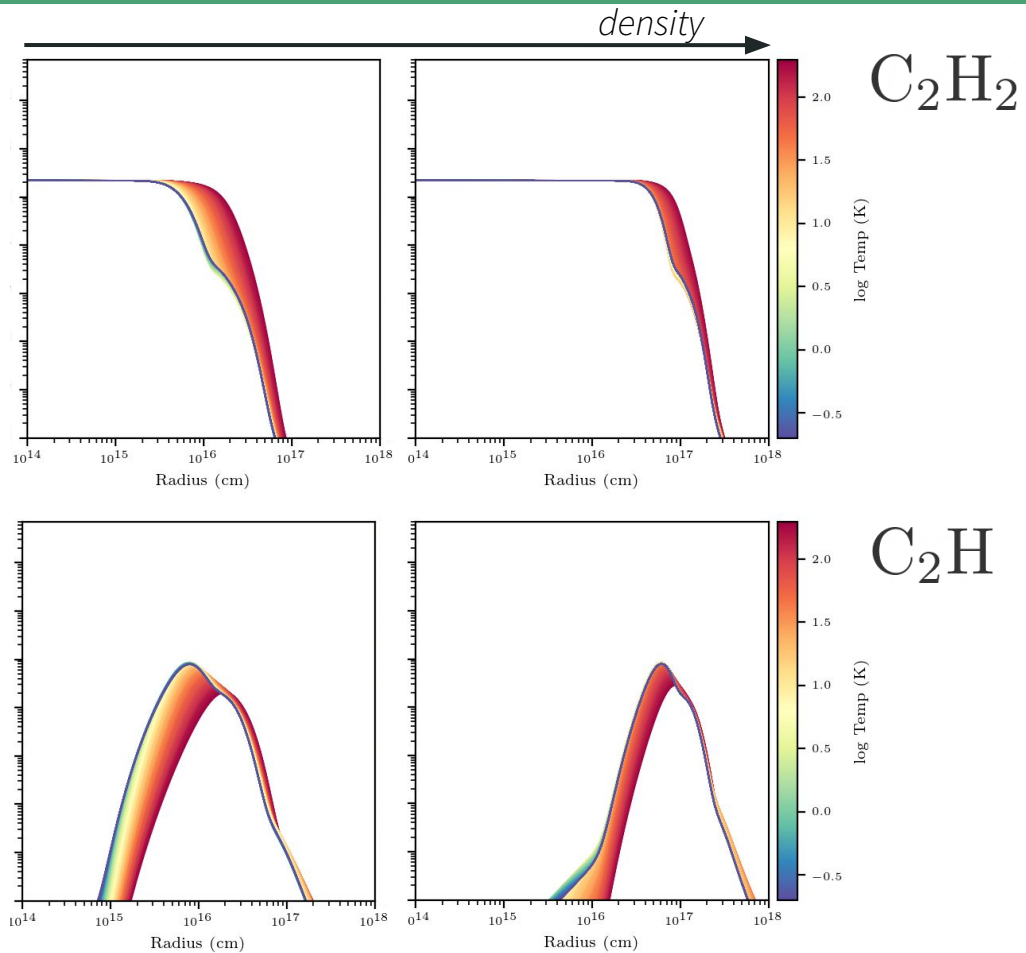
# *Results: sensitivity study*

# Results

*C-rich outflow*

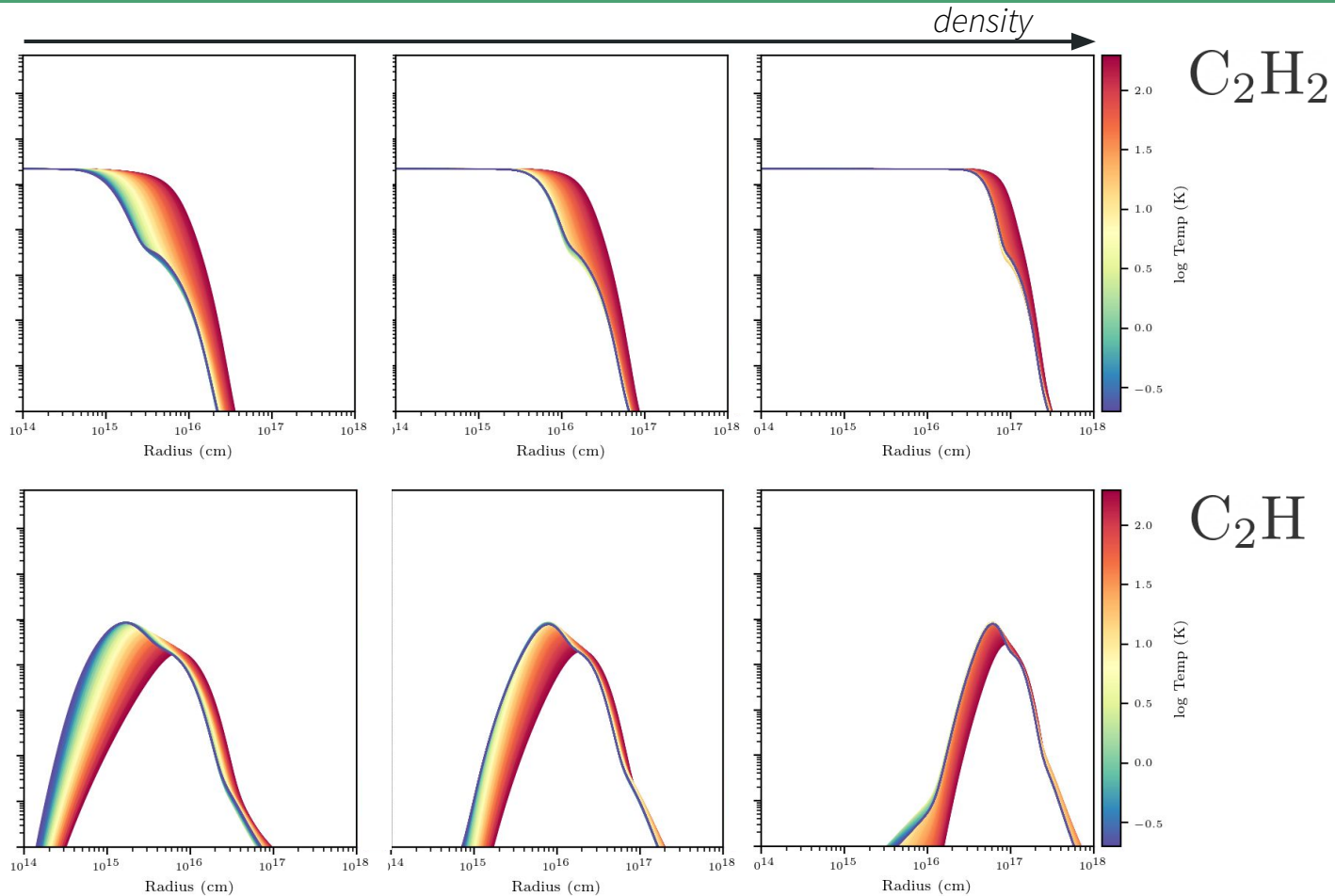


# Results



*C-rich outflow*

# Results



*C-rich outflow*



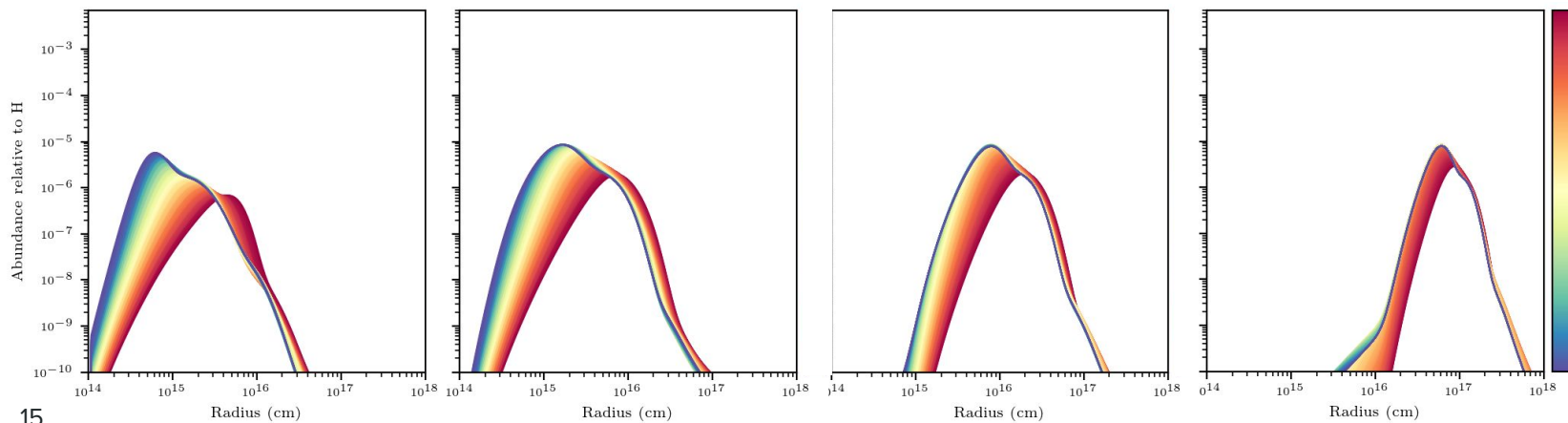
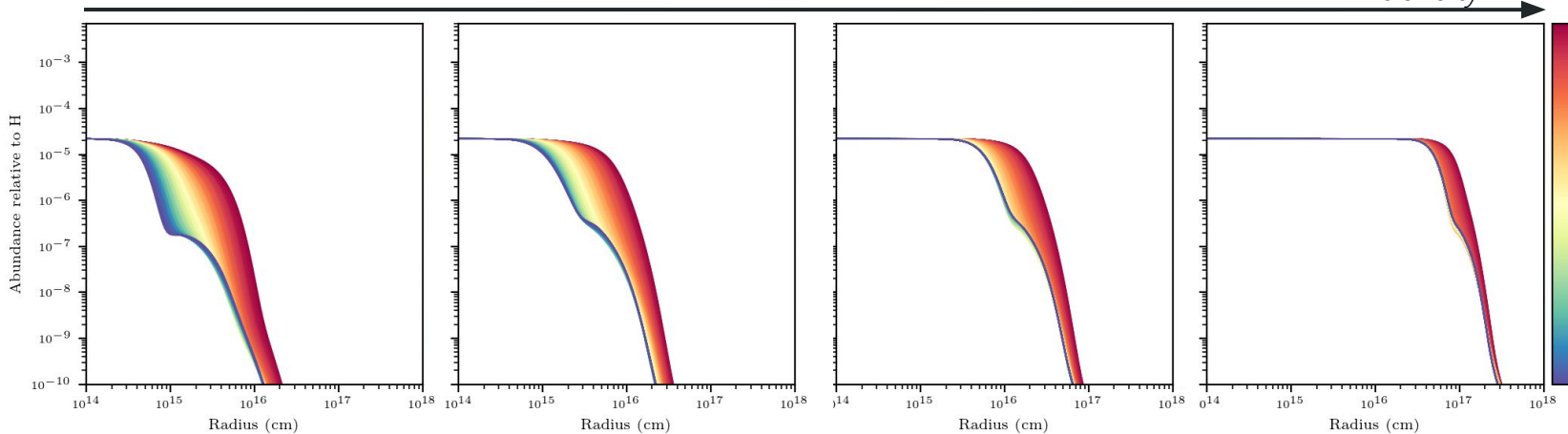
density →

$C_2H_2$

log Temp (K)

$C_2H$

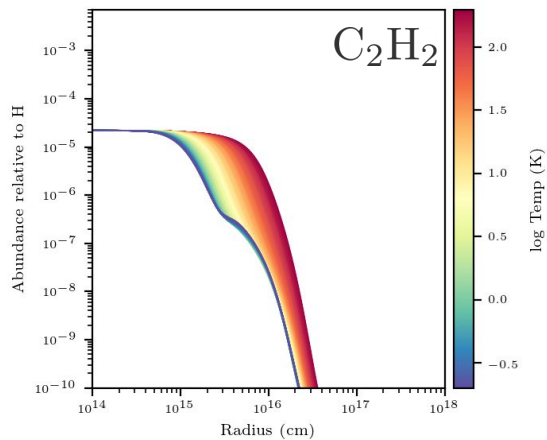
log Temp (K)





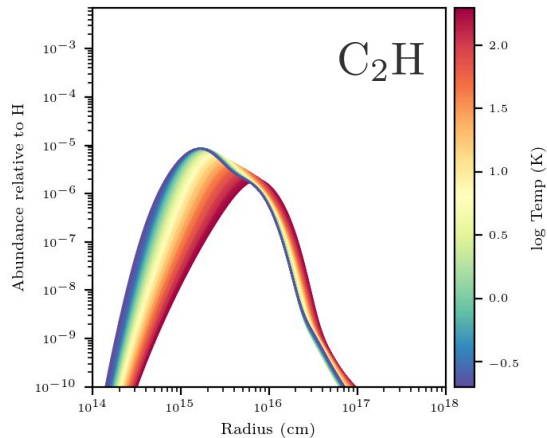
# Results

**Energy barrier**



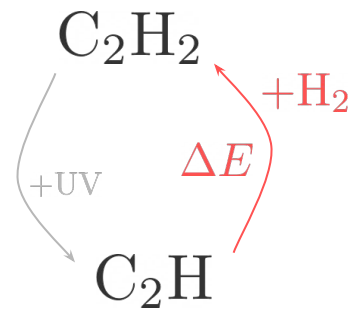
Arrhenius Law:

$$k = \alpha \left( \frac{T}{300 \text{ K}} \right)^\beta \exp \left( \frac{-\gamma}{T} \right) \quad [\text{cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}]$$



*C-rich outflow*

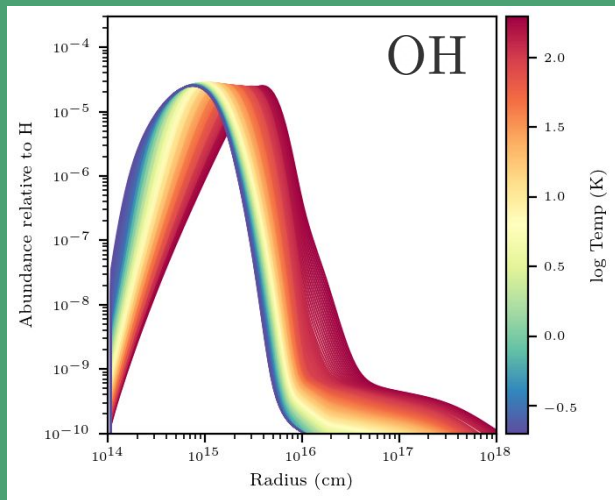
Network:





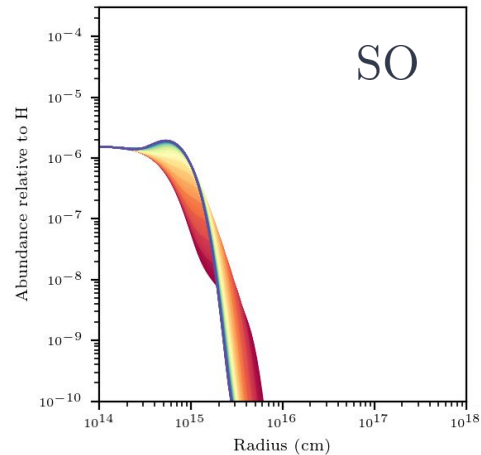
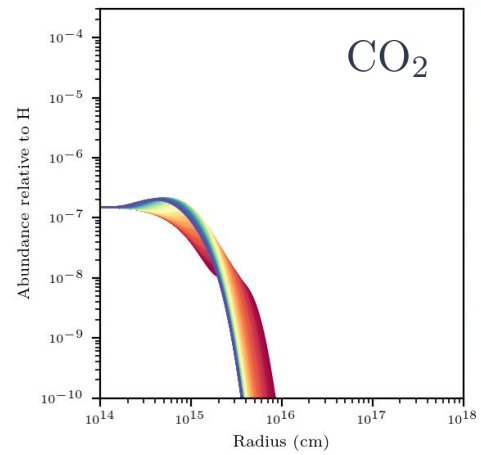
# Results

“Inheriting” of profiles

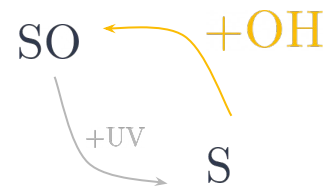
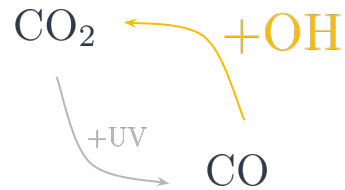


O-rich outflow

Sensitivity study



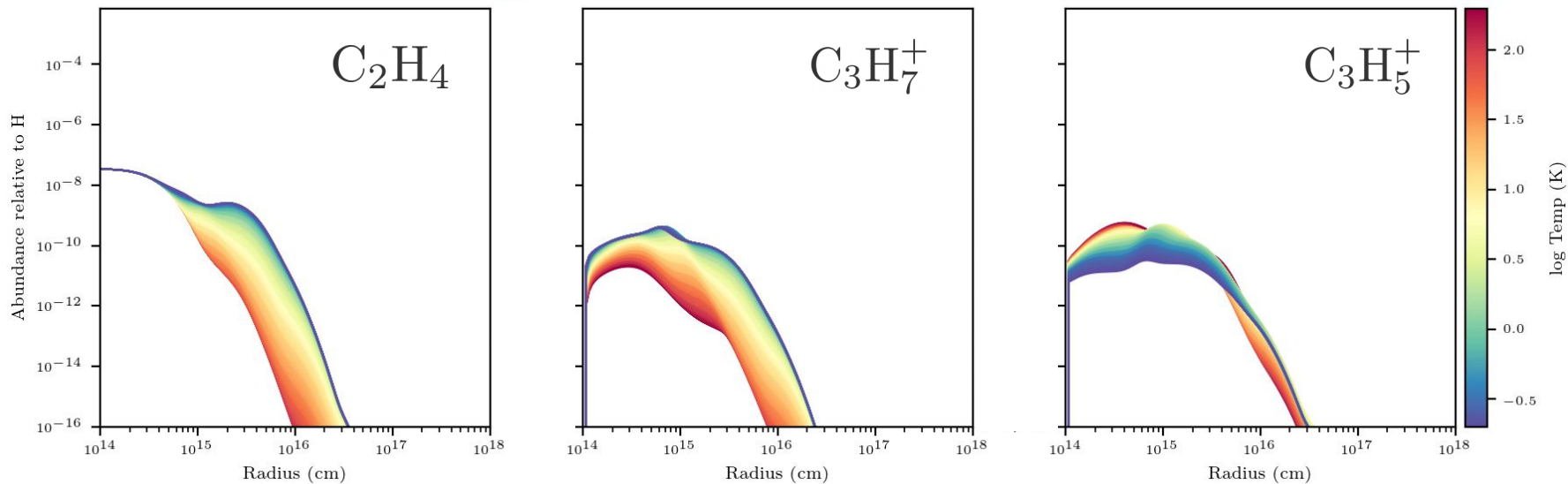
Network:



# Results

$$k = \alpha \left( \frac{T}{300 \text{ K}} \right)^{\beta} \exp \left( \frac{-\gamma}{T} \right) \quad [\text{cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}]$$

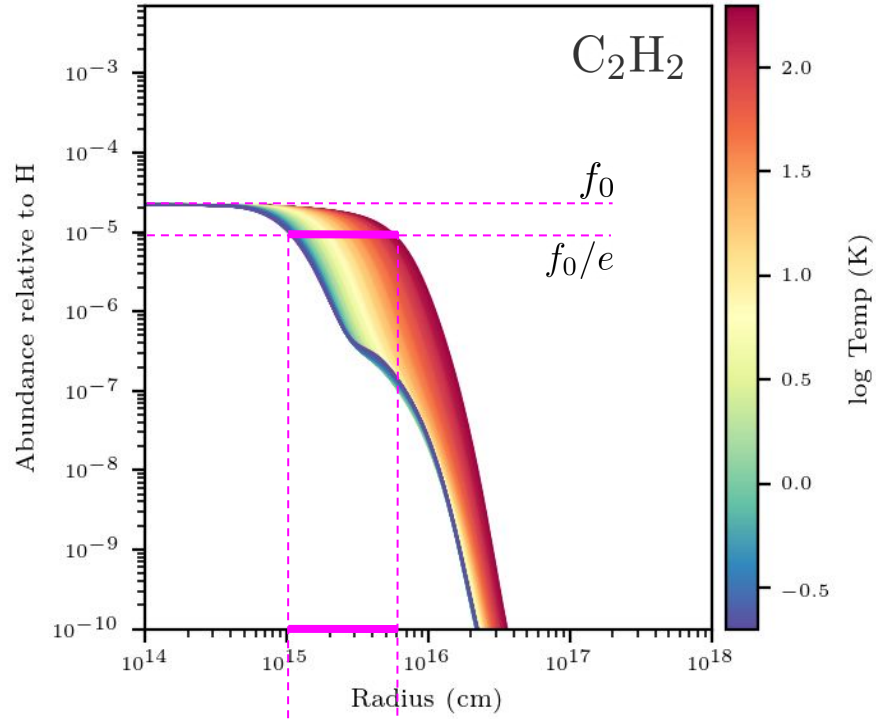
Negative beta-exponent



*C-rich outflow*

# Envelope sizes

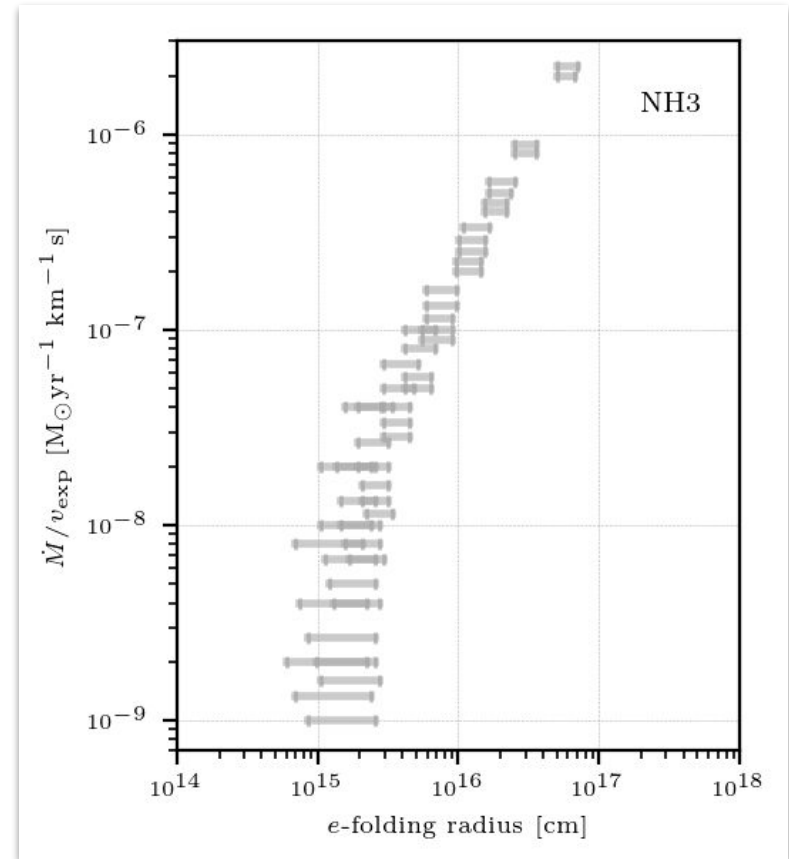
*e-folding radius*





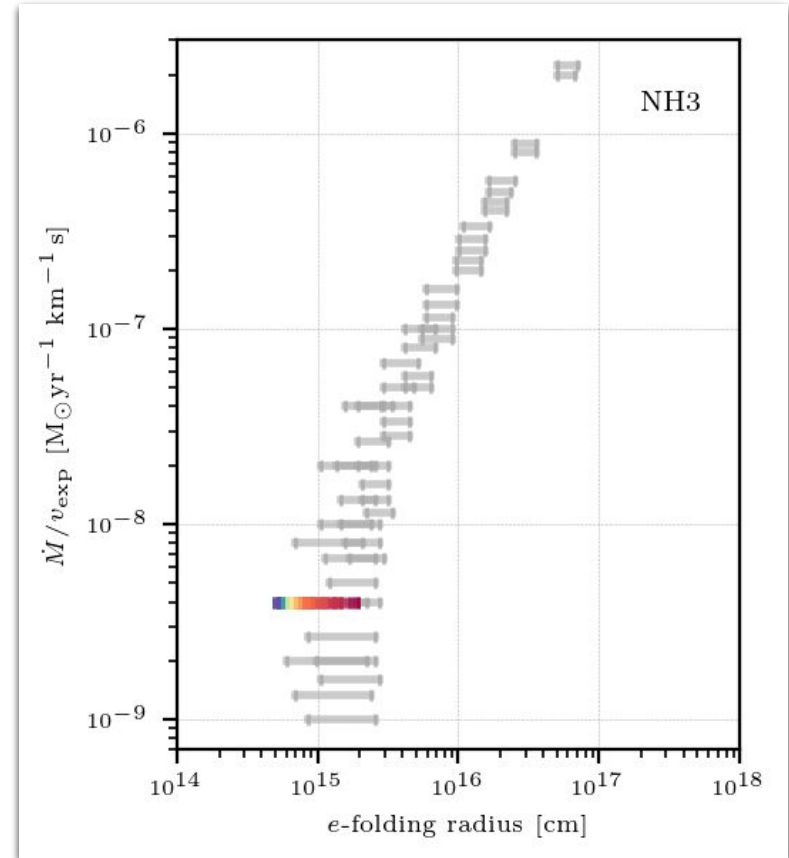
# Envelope sizes

*C-rich outflow*



# Envelope sizes

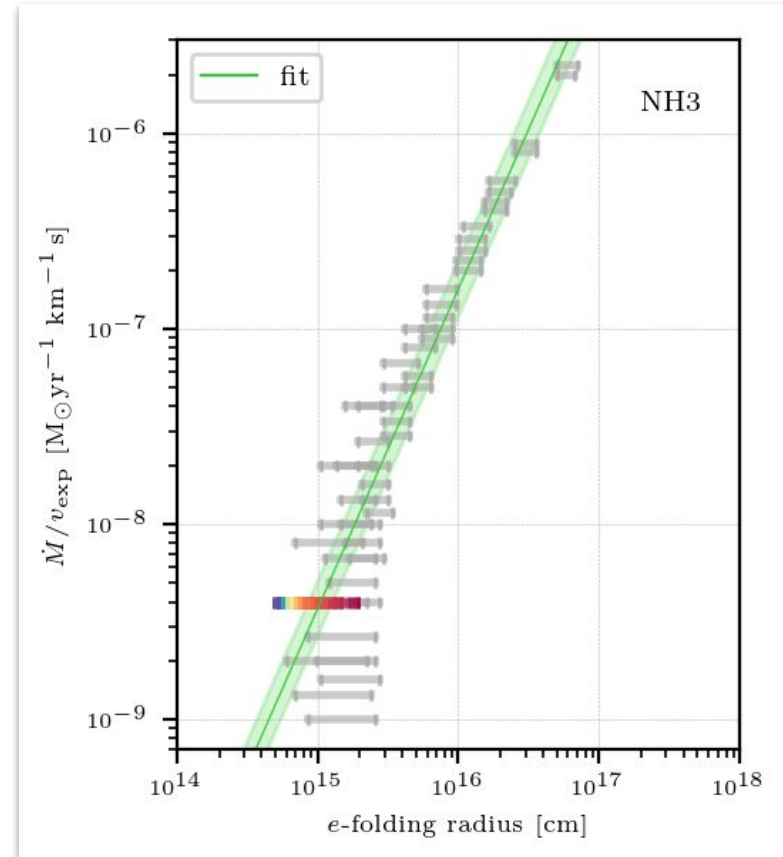
- *Temperature variation* per density



# Envelope sizes

- *Temperature variation* per density
- *Linear relation* → fit in log-scale

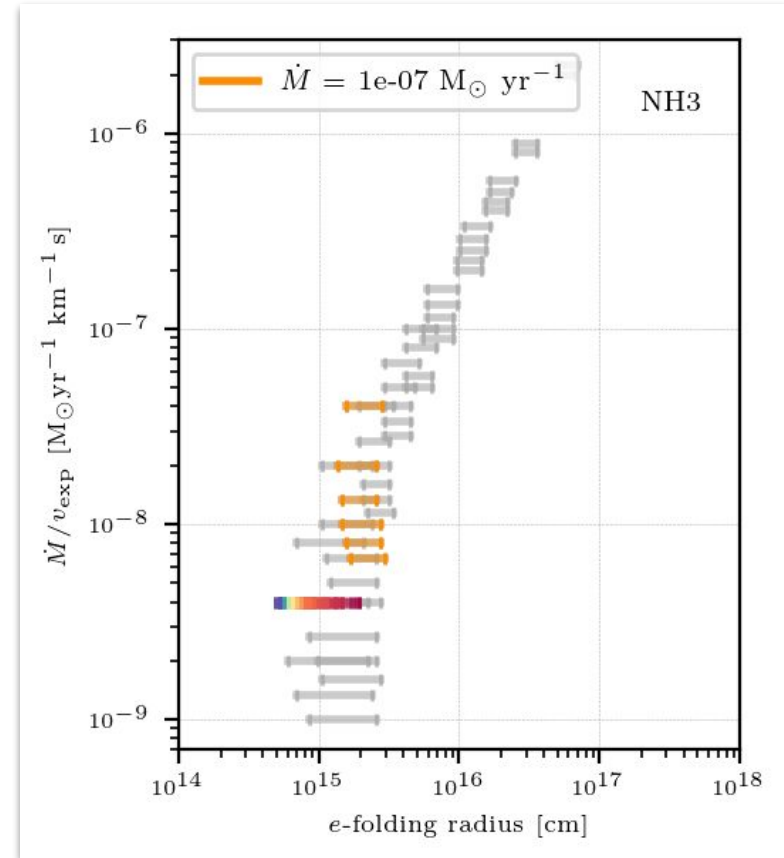
$$\log \frac{\dot{M}}{v_{\text{exp}}} = a \log R_e + b$$



## Envelope sizes

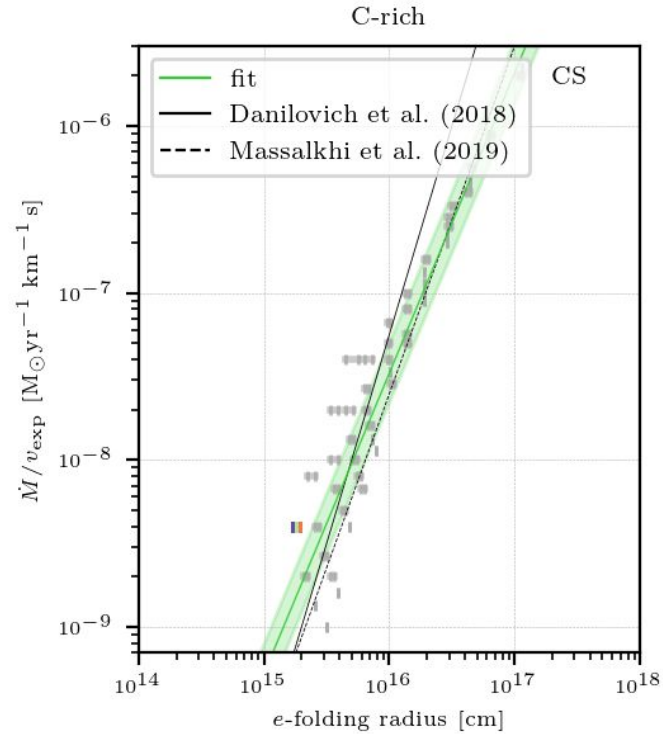
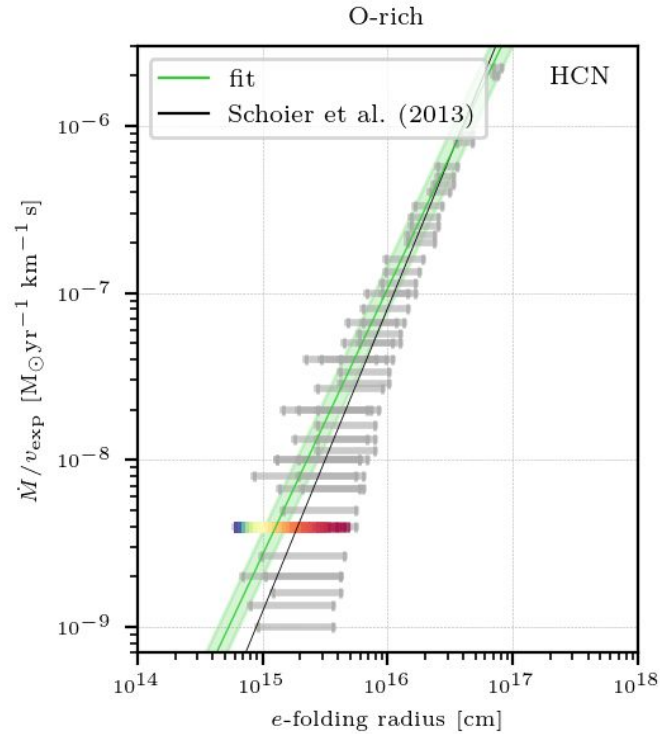
- *Temperature variation* per density
- *Linear relation* → fit in log-scale
- Effect of *CO self-shielding*:  
dependent of expansion velocity

$$\rho = \frac{\dot{M}}{4\pi r^2 v_{\text{exp}}}$$

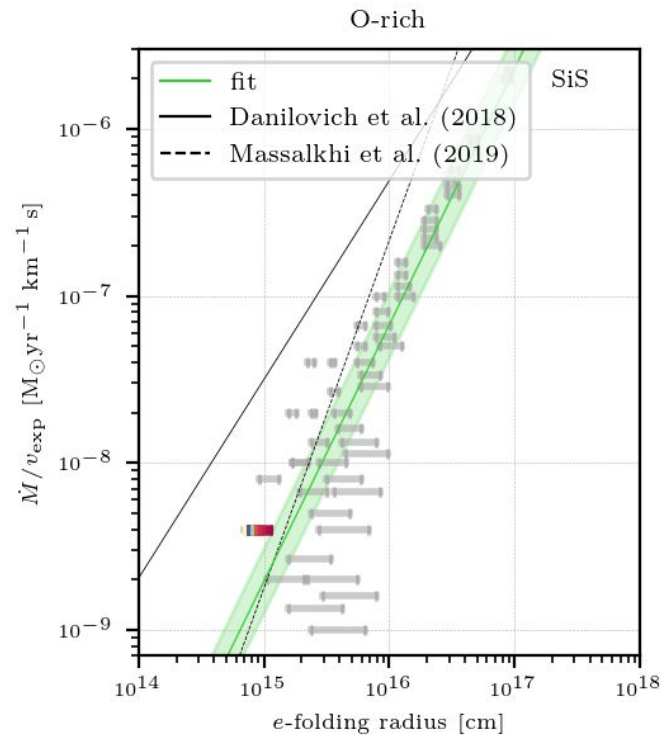
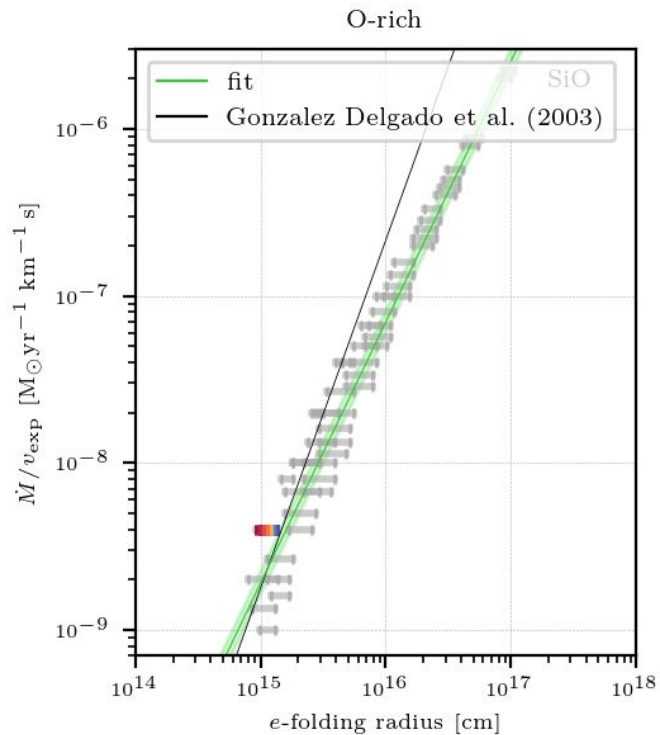




# Envelope sizes: comparison to literature/observations



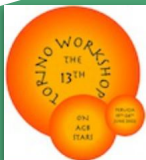
# Envelope sizes: comparison to literature



# Conclusions

- Abundances vary with  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{density} \\ \text{temperature} \end{array} \right. \rightarrow$ 
  - energy barrier
  - ‘inheritance’
  - $\beta < 0$
- Missing chemistry for SiS?

***→ chemical thermometer?***



*Torino Workshop on AGB stars - 25/06/'22*



Institute of  
Astronomy



**KU LEUVEN**

# Conclusions

- Abundances vary with  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{density} \\ \text{temperature} \end{array} \right. \rightarrow$ 
  - energy barrier
  - ‘inheritance’
  - $\beta < 0$
- Missing chemistry for SiS?

$\rightarrow$  *chemical thermometer?*

*Thank you!*

Contact:

[silke.maes@kuleuven.be](mailto:silke.maes@kuleuven.be)

MNRAS **000**, 1–12 (2021)

Preprint 24 May 2022

Compiled using MNRAS L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X style file v3.0

## Chemistry around low-mass evolved stars: a theoretical sensitivity study

S. Maes<sup>1</sup>, M. Van de Sande<sup>2</sup>, T. Danilovich<sup>1</sup> & L. Decin<sup>1,3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Institute for Astronomy, KU Leuven, Celestijnenlaan 200D, 3001 Leuven, Belgium

<sup>2</sup> School of Physics and Astronomy, University of Leeds, Leeds LS2 9JT, UK

<sup>3</sup> School of Chemistry, University of Leeds, Leeds LS2 9JT, UK

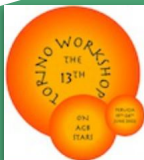
Accepted XXX. Received YYY; in original form ZZZ.

*Maes et al. (in prep.)*

### ABSTRACT

Some abstract...

**Key words:** astrochemistry – molecular processes – stars: AGB and post-AGB – circumstellar matter – ISM: molecules



Torino Workshop on AGB stars - 25/06/'22



Institute of  
Astronomy



**KU LEUVEN**